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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 16 ABU DHABI 000284

SIPDIS
NEA/ARP, G/TIP, INL, DRL, PRM, NEA/RA-RINA CHATTERJI, G-LAURA PENA

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TAGS: [PHUM](#) [KTIP](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PREF](#) [ELAB](#) [KCRM](#) [KFRD](#) [KWMN](#) [SMIG](#)
ASEC, KMCA, AE
SUBJECT: UAE'S 2010 TIP REPORT SUBMISSION

REF: STATE 2094

1. (U) Mission UAE's submission for the 2010 trafficking in persons report follows. Responses are keyed to reftel paragraphs 25 to 30.

THE COUNTRY'S TIP SITUATION

2. (SBU) Please find below responses to questions in paragraph 25 of reftel:

25A Question: What is (are) the source(s) of available information on human trafficking? What plans are in place (if any) to undertake further documentation of human trafficking/ How reliable are these sources?

25A Answer: The UAE government's central source for information is the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT). Individual government ministries provide human trafficking information, especially the Ministries of Labor, Interior, Foreign Affairs, Justice, and Social Affairs. Emirate-level governments (i.e. equivalent of US state governments) are also sources, as well as international organizations, NGOs, attorneys, human rights activists, local media, and diplomats and labor attaches from labor-sending countries.

The UAE government (UAEG) continues to improve data collection and victim identification efforts, but it is difficult to determine the accuracy of official estimates. The NCCHT is a ministerial-level

interagency entity chaired by Dr. Anwar Gargash, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, with a mandate to coordinate the anti-trafficking activities of the entire UAEG. Awareness of and cooperation with the NCCHT among other government agencies appears to be absolute.

25B Question: Is the country a country of origin, transit, and/or destination for men, women, or children subjected to conditions of commercial sexual exploitation, forced or bonded labor, or other slave-like conditions? Are citizens or residents of the country subjected to such trafficking conditions within the country? If so, does this internal trafficking occur in territory outside of the government's control (e.g. in a civil war situation)? From where are people recruited or from where do they migrate prior to being subjected to these exploitative conditions? To what other countries are people trafficked and for what purposes? Provide, where possible, numbers or estimates for each group of trafficking victims. Have there been any changes in the TIP situation since the last TIP Report (e.g. changes in destinations)?

25B Answer: The UAE is a destination for men and women, predominantly from South and Southeast Asia, trafficked for the

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purposes of labor and commercial sexual exploitation. There are reports of bonded labor, and some migrants are subjected to conditions indicative of forced labor, including unlawful withholding of passports, restrictions on movement, non-payment of wages, threats or abuse. There is no evidence that the UAE is a source country for trafficking victims.

Migrants comprise more than 90 percent of the UAE's private sector workforce and are recruited primarily from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, China, Thailand, Korea, Afghanistan, Iran and the Philippines. According to UAEG sources, as of November 2009, there were 1.75 million Indians, 1.25 million Pakistanis, and 500,000 Bangladeshis in the UAE.

Many expatriate workers complain of mistreatment, labor law violations, and low wages, but these complaints do not typically pertain to human trafficking. The actual number of trafficking victims among the expatriate population is unknown.

The primary change in the TIP situation since the last report relates to the UAEG's response. The government is increasingly aggressive in prosecuting human trafficking cases and penalties for convictions have been harsh, including several life sentences.

25C Question: To what kind of conditions are the trafficking victims subjected?

25C Answer: Victims are usually defrauded by recruiters promising nonexistent jobs or unrealistic salaries and work conditions. Domestic workers were generally isolated from the outside world and sponsorship laws gave employers power to control their movements and left some of them vulnerable to exploitation.

Nonpayment of wages was remedied when the Ministry of Labor (MOL) instituted a direct deposit system creating an electronic record of

payment for all workers. In the past year, the MOL hired at least 130 additional labor inspectors and the Ministry of Interior (MOI) and emirate-level governments began carrying out independent inspections of construction sites and labor camps. MOL claimed to have inspected 16,524 work sites seeking violations.

25D Question: Vulnerability to TIP: Are certain groups of persons more at risk of human trafficking (e.g. women and children, boys versus girls, certain ethnic groups, refugees, IDPs, etc.)? If so, please specify the type of exploitation for which these groups are most at risk (e.g., girls are more at risk of domestic servitude than boys).

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25D Answer: Unskilled, uneducated workers from poor source countries were most vulnerable to TIP. Widespread economic migration of both men and women allowed unscrupulous recruiters in source countries and employers in the UAE to take advantage of some laborers.

25E Question: Traffickers and Their Methods: Who are the traffickers/exploiters? Are they independent business people? Small or family-based crime groups? Large international organized crime syndicates? What methods are used to gain direct access to victims? For example, are the traffickers recruiting victims through lucrative job offers? Are victims sold by their families, or approached by friends of friends? Are victims "self presenting" (approaching the exploiter without the involvement of a recruiter or transporter)? If recruitment or transportation is involved, what methods are used to recruit or transport victims (e.g., are false documents being used)? Are employment, travel, and tourism agencies or marriage brokers involved with or fronting for traffickers or crime groups to traffic individuals?

25E Answer: Labor recruitment offices in source countries lured foreign workers with employment contracts that were never honored, forcing workers into involuntary servitude and debt bondage. Businesses and individuals within the UAE reportedly promised migrants employment opportunities that never materialized.

Some women from Eastern Europe, South East Asia, the Far East, East Africa, Iraq, Iran, and Morocco reportedly are trafficked to the UAE for commercial sexual exploitation. Some foreign women also are reportedly recruited for work as secretaries or hotel workers by third-country recruiters and coerced into prostitution or domestic servitude after arriving in the UAE.

Some trafficking victims were sold by their families. UAE media reported at least two cases of Iraqi families who knowingly sold their teenage daughters to other Iraqis resident in the UAE for the purpose of prostitution.

SETTING THE SCENE FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-TIP EFFORTS

13. (SBU) Please find below responses to questions in paragraph 26 of reftel:

26A Question: Does the government acknowledge that human

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trafficking is a problem in the country? If not, why not?

26A Answer: The UAEG readily acknowledges that human trafficking is a problem in the country, and continues to improve its prevention, prosecution, and victim protection efforts. Government Ministers commonly and candidly discuss human trafficking issues in public, in the media, and with US government interlocutors.

26B Question: Which government agencies are involved in efforts to combat sex and labor trafficking - including forced labor - and, which agency, if any, has the lead in these efforts?

26B Answer: Several federal ministries and emirate-level agencies are involved in anti-trafficking efforts. At the federal level, the Ministries of Interior, Labor, Justice, Foreign Affairs, Social Affairs, and Health are actively involved, as well as the federal intelligence service. At the emirate level, local police departments play a large role in combating TIP, especially the Dubai Police which created a separate anti-trafficking task force in 2009. The lead agency to combat human trafficking is the NCCHT, which includes representation from all of the above-named federal ministries and local entities, in addition to public prosecutors, social services agencies, shelter staff, immigration officers, public health officials and mental health specialists.

26C Question: What are the limitations on the government's ability to address these problems in practice? For example, is funding for police or other institutions inadequate? Is overall corruption a problem? Does the government lack the resources to aid victims?

26C Answer: The government's ability to address TIP is limited by available human resources and its federal structure. The UAE has a small citizen population and scant experience with complex issues like TIP. The UAEG passed its anti-trafficking law in 2006 and has dramatically intensified its efforts since then through additional training and increased prosecutions. Nevertheless, the UAEG remains limited by a relative lack of experience with the issue.

The federal government is a loose federation of seven emirates which exercise considerable autonomy over legal affairs. The NCCHT appears to be successfully coordinating anti-trafficking efforts throughout the emirates but the committee is only three years old. Government corruption is not a problem.

26D Question: To what extent does the government systematically monitor its anti-trafficking efforts (on all fronts) and periodically make available, publicly or privately and directly or through regional/international organizations, its assessments of these anti-trafficking efforts?

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26D Answer: The NCCHT systematically monitors the UAE's overall anti-trafficking efforts and publishes a comprehensive annual report in addition to periodic informational updates. NCCHT meetings are publicized by the UAEG and widely covered by both

English and Arabic media.

26E Question: What measures has the government taken to establish the identity of local populations, including birth registration, citizenship and nationality?

26E Answer: Widely varying estimates in the tens of thousands of stateless residents are present in the UAE. The government attempts to register all residents without citizenship and is improving naturalization procedures for these stateless persons (known as bidoon). In 2009, the government granted nationality to at least 70 previously stateless persons.

26F Question: To what extent is the government capable of gathering the data required for an in-depth assessment of law enforcement efforts? Where are the gaps? Are there any ways to work around these gaps?

26F Answer: The government is capable of gathering the data required for an in-depth assessment of law enforcement efforts and the NCCHT attempts to do so every year. The federal structure of the UAE may create inconsistency in data collection and analysis due to the autonomy of each emirate government.

INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF TRAFFICKERS

14. (SBU) Please find below responses to questions in paragraph 27 of reftel:

27A Question: Does the country have a law or laws specifically prohibiting trafficking in persons -- both sexual exploitation and labor? If so, please specifically cite the name of the law(s) and its date of enactment and provide the exact language [actual copies preferable] of the TIP provisions. Please provide a full inventory of trafficking laws, including non-criminal statutes that allow for civil penalties against alleged trafficking crimes (e.g., civil forfeiture laws and laws against illegal debt). Does the law(s) cover both internal and transnational forms of trafficking? If not, under what other laws can traffickers be prosecuted? For example, are there laws against slavery or the exploitation of prostitution

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by means of force, fraud, or coercion? Are these other laws being used in trafficking cases?

27A Answer: The UAE prohibits all forms of trafficking under its federal law Number 51 of 2006, enacted on November 9, 2006. Penalties for trafficking offenses range from one year's imprisonment to life imprisonment. Although this comprehensive law emphasizes labor trafficking offenses, it has to date only been used to prosecute sex trafficking offenses. In 2009, the UAE prosecuted numerous cases applying law Number 51 and at least nine individuals received life sentences for human trafficking offenses.

27B Question: What are the prescribed and imposed penalties for the trafficking of persons for commercial sexual exploitation, including for the forced prostitution of adults and the prostitution of children?

27B Answer: Trafficking for prostitution carries a five-year minimum sentence. A life sentence can be imposed if the victim is a female, a child, mentally impaired, or if the perpetrator is a spouse, parent or guardian of the victim. Persons aware of TIP crimes who fail to report them can be imprisoned for one to five years. In 2009, the UAE filed charges under this provision, reportedly for the first time, and sought one year prison terms in cases where prosecutors believed witnesses should have reported potential trafficking victims.

In January 2010, 13 Syrian men were convicted of human trafficking for the forced sexual exploitation of at least 15 Moroccan women. Seven of the convicted traffickers received life sentences, while six received ten year prison terms.

27C Question: What are the prescribed and imposed penalties for labor trafficking offenses, including all forms of forced labor? If your country is a source country for labor migrants, do the government's laws provide for criminal punishment -- i.e. jail time -- for labor recruiters who engage in recruitment of workers using knowingly fraudulent or deceptive offers with the purpose of subjecting workers to compelled service in the destination country? If your country is a destination for labor migrants (legal/regular or illegal/irregular), are there laws punishing employers or labor agents who confiscate workers' passports or travel documents for the purpose of labor trafficking, switch contracts without the worker's consent as a means to keep the worker in a state of compelled service, or withhold payment of salaries as means of keeping the worker in a state of compelled service?

27C Answer: The minimum penalty for labor trafficking offenses is five years. Life imprisonment can be ordered under certain circumstances. The anti-trafficking law is sufficiently broad to cover labor recruiters in both source and destination countries.

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The UAE Labor Law criminalizes the use of fraudulent documents in labor recruitment and passport withholding is prohibited.

27D Question: What are the prescribed penalties for rape or forcible sexual assault? (NOTE: This is necessary to evaluate a foreign government's compliance with TVPA Minimum Standard 2, which reads: "For the knowing commission of any act of sex trafficking... the government of the country should prescribe punishment commensurate with that for grave crimes, such as forcible sexual assault (rape)." END NOTE)

27D Answer: Rape is punishable by sentences ranging from two years imprisonment to death. Penalties for sex trafficking range from a minimum of five years to life in prison.

27E Question: Did the government take legal action against human trafficking offenders during the reporting period? If so, provide numbers of investigations, prosecutions, convictions, and sentences imposed, including details on plea bargains and fines, if relevant and available. Please note the number of convicted trafficking

offenders who received suspended sentences and the number who received only a fine as punishment. Please indicate which laws were used to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence traffickers. Also, if possible, please disaggregate numbers of cases by type of TIP (labor vs. commercial sexual exploitation) and victims (children under 18 years of age vs. adults). What were the actual punishments imposed on convicted trafficking offenders? Are they serving the time sentenced? If not, why not?

27E Answer: The government reported 36 human trafficking cases prosecuted under Law Number 51 in the first nine months of 2009, compared to 20 in calendar year 2008. Subsequent press reports describing new cases would indicate the total number of TIP prosecutions was approximately 45. The NCCHT estimates the number of accused traffickers during the reporting period was over 100. All known trafficking convictions resulted in prison terms rather than fines. Penalties reported for trafficking convictions in 2009 ranged from one year for failure to report knowledge of a trafficking victim to life imprisonment for commercial sexual exploitation. All of the reported convictions related to sex trafficking and the vast majority of the victims were adult females. There were reports of at least three girls under age 18 trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.

27F Question: Does the government provide any specialized training for law enforcement and immigration officials on identifying and treating victims of trafficking? Or training on investigating and prosecuting human trafficking crimes? Specify whether NGOs, international organizations, and/or the USG provide specialized training for host government officials.

27F Answer: The NCCHT organized several training sessions for

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judicial and law enforcement officials, in coordination with social services agency staff. Dubai police held workshops with the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children, which operates the local TIP shelter. The UAEG also contracted with IOM to provide anti-trafficking training to law enforcement personnel in Dubai and Abu Dhabi during 2009.

A primary focus of every training session conducted in 2009 was victim identification and protection. Shelter staff in Abu Dhabi and Dubai reported increased sensitivity and awareness among law enforcement officials compared to previous years.

27G Question: Does the government cooperate with other governments in the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases? If possible, provide the number of cooperative international investigations on trafficking during the reporting period.

27G Answer: The UAEG completed its ninth bilateral agreement with labor source countries in 2009. It cooperated with other governments investigating their own trafficking cases. The UAEG cooperated with the Government of the Philippines when it shut down numerous Philippines-based recruiting agencies that had stranded 137 Filipino bus drivers in Dubai who were promised nonexistent jobs. The UAEG allowed the drivers who so desired to remain in the country until they found other work. The NCCHT reported that the UAE government conducted joint TIP investigations with Tunisia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and several GCC states.

27H Question: Does the government extradite persons who are charged with trafficking in other countries? If so, please provide the number of traffickers extradited during the reporting period, and the number of trafficking extraditions pending. In particular, please report on any pending or concluded extraditions of trafficking offenders to the United States.

27H Answer: The UAE has reportedly extradited persons charged with trafficking in other countries. None of these cases involved the United States.

27I Question: Is there evidence of government involvement in or tolerance of trafficking, on a local or institutional level? If so, please explain in detail.

27I Answer: There is no known government involvement in trafficking. Although speculation exists that trafficking has been tolerated by the government due to the importance of foreign labor, the UAEG's recent efforts to combat trafficking make this increasingly unlikely. The Minister of Labor has made several public statements categorizing human trafficking and involuntary servitude as an impediment to sustained economic growth.

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27J Question: If government officials are involved in human trafficking, what steps has the government taken to end such complicity? Please indicate the number of government officials investigated and prosecuted for involvement in trafficking or trafficking-related criminal activities during the reporting period. Have any been convicted? What sentence(s) was imposed? Please specify if officials received suspended sentences, or were given a fine, fired, or reassigned to another position within the government as punishment. Please indicate the number of convicted officials that received suspended sentences or received only a fine as punishment.

27J Answer: There is no evidence that government officials are involved in human trafficking.

27K Question: For countries that contribute troops to international peacekeeping efforts, please indicate whether the government vigorously investigated, prosecuted, convicted and sentenced nationals of the country deployed abroad as part of a peacekeeping or other similar mission who engaged in or facilitated severe forms of trafficking or who exploited victims of such trafficking.

27K Answer: There is no evidence UAE troops stationed abroad engaged in or facilitated trafficking.

27L Question: If the country has an identified problem of child sex tourists coming to the country, what are the countries of origin for sex tourists? How many foreign pedophiles did the government prosecute or deport/extradite to their country of origin? If your host country's nationals are perpetrators of child sex tourism, do the country's child sexual abuse laws have extraterritorial coverage (similar to the U.S. PROTECT Act) to allow the prosecution of suspected sex tourists for crimes committed abroad? If so, how many of the country's nationals were prosecuted and/or convicted during the reporting period under the extraterritorial provision(s) for traveling to other countries to engage in child sex tourism?

27L Answer: The UAE does not have an identified problem of child sex tourists coming to the country.

PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS

15. (SBU) Please find below responses to questions in paragraph 28

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of reftel:

28A Question: What kind of protection is the government able under existing law to provide for victims and witnesses? Does it provide these protections in practice?

28A Answer: The UAEG provides care and protection to trafficking victims, including repatriation assistance. Public hospitals and TIP shelters provide health care and counseling.

28B Question: Does the country have victim care facilities (shelters or drop-in centers) which are accessible to trafficking victims? Do foreign victims have the same access to care as domestic trafficking victims? Where are child victims placed (e.g., in shelters, foster care, or juvenile justice detention centers)? Does the country have specialized care for adults in addition to children? Does the country have specialized care for male victims as well as female? Does the country have specialized facilities dedicated to helping victims of trafficking? Are these facilities operated by the government or by NGOs? What is the funding source of these facilities? Please estimate the amount the government spent (in U.S. dollar equivalent) on these specialized facilities dedicated to helping trafficking victims during the reporting period.

28B Answer: The government operates shelters in Dubai and Abu Dhabi largely for female victims of trafficking and abuse. In February 2010, the government announced plans to open additional shelters in the northern emirates of Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah by mid-2010. This network of shelters is funded by the UAEG and operates under the auspices of the Red Crescent Authority. Foreign and domestic victims, adults and children, have the same access to these shelters and their rehabilitative services.

Male victims can receive assistance at their embassies, consulates or overseas labor offices. Many labor-sending countries offer shelter in addition to legal and repatriation assistance to their citizens.

28C Question: Does the government provide trafficking victims with access to legal, medical and psychological services? If so, please specify the kind of assistance provided. Does the government provide funding or other forms of support to foreign or domestic NGOs and/or international organizations for providing these services to trafficking victims? Please explain and provide any funding amounts in U.S. dollar equivalent. If assistance provided was in-kind, please specify exact assistance. Please specify if

funding for assistance comes from a federal budget or from regional or local governments.

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28C Answer: The government-operated shelters offer comprehensive protection and rehabilitation services including health and nutritional care, psychological assessment, vocational training, pro bono legal assistance, clothing, and academic instruction including computer classes and language lessons.

28D Question: Does the government assist foreign trafficking victims, for example, by providing temporary to permanent residency status, or other relief from deportation? If so, please explain.

28D Answer: The government waives immigration and other violations for identified trafficking victims. For example, victims of commercial sexual exploitation are not charged with prostitution. The government also provides repatriation assistance. Deportation may occur in cases where individuals are not identified as victims of trafficking.

28E Question: Does the government provide longer-term shelter or housing benefits to victims or other resources to aid the victims in rebuilding their lives?

28E Answer: In 2009, the government continued funding a rehabilitation program, in coordination with UNICEF, for former child camel jockeys who were repatriated in previous years. The UAEG provided compensation to the victims and their families and directly financed community development projects in their home countries.

28F Question: Does the government have a referral process to transfer victims detained, arrested or placed in protective custody by law enforcement authorities to institutions that provide short- or long-term care (either government or NGO-run)?

28F Answer: Yes, law enforcement authorities are trained to identify trafficking victims. Once identified, victims are referred to one of the local shelters.

28G Question: What is the total number of trafficking victims identified during the reporting period? (If available, please specify the type of exploitation of these victims e.g. "The government identified X number of trafficking victims during the reporting period, Y of which were victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation and Z of which were victims of nonconsensual labor exploitation.) Of these, how many victims were referred to care facilities for assistance by law enforcement authorities during the reporting period? By social services officials? What is the number of victims assisted by government-funded assistance programs and those not funded by the government during the reporting period?

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28G Answer: The government identified an estimated 80 trafficking victims during the reporting period, all of whom were victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation. All of the identified victims were referred to care facilities, but some chose to immediately return to their home countries. The Abu Dhabi and Dubai shelters assisted approximately 50 women during the reporting period.

28H Question: Do the government's law enforcement, immigration, and social services personnel have a formal system of proactively identifying victims of trafficking among high-risk persons with whom they come in contact (e.g., foreign persons arrested for prostitution or immigration violations)? For countries with legalized prostitution, does the government have a mechanism for screening for trafficking victims among persons involved in the legal/regulated commercial sex trade?

28H Answer: During the reporting period the UAEG, in coordination with IOM, trained law enforcement, immigration, and social services personnel in identifying potential victims of human trafficking. The training emphasized warning signs to watch for, populations vulnerable to trafficking, and the most effective methods for interviewing potential victims.

28I Question: Are the rights of victims respected? Are trafficking victims detained or jailed? If so, for how long? Are victims fined? Are victims prosecuted for violations of other laws, such as those governing immigration or prostitution?

28I Answer: Victims' rights are respected once they are identified as trafficking victims. Identified trafficking victims are not jailed, fined or prosecuted for other violations as a result of their trafficking. Victims who cooperate with law enforcement officials are provided housing and sometimes employment. Police reported that victims often choose immediate repatriation, at UAEG expense, rather than testifying against their traffickers.

28J Question: Does the government encourage victims to assist in the investigation and prosecution of trafficking? How many victims assisted in the investigation and prosecution of traffickers during the reporting period? May victims file civil suits or seek legal action against traffickers? Does anyone impede victim access to such legal redress? If a victim is a material witness in a court case against a former employer, is the victim permitted to obtain other employment or to leave the country pending trial proceedings? Are there means by which a victim may obtain restitution?

28J Answer: The government actively encourages victims to assist in the investigation and prosecution of traffickers. Dubai police reported that victim testimony increased their chances for a successful prosecution and conviction. Victims can file civil suits seeking damages from their traffickers with no impediments to

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such legal redress. Victims who agree to testify as witnesses are housed in hotels at UAEG expense. They are permitted to leave the country or seek other employment.

28K Question: Does the government provide any specialized training for government officials in identifying trafficking victims and in the provision of assistance to trafficked victims, including the special needs of trafficked children? Does the government provide training on protections and assistance to its embassies and consulates in foreign countries that are destination or transit countries? What is the number of trafficking victims assisted by the host country's embassies or consulates abroad during the reporting period? Please explain the type of assistance provided (travel documents, referrals to assistance, payment for transportation home).

28K Answer: The UAEG provides specialized training for government officials in identifying and assisting trafficking victims. Police, public prosecutors, labor officials, and social services staff participated in training sessions arranged by IOM, the UAEG and emirate-level governments.

Two separate delegations, comprising law enforcement officials and shelter personnel, were part of training programs at the International Training Centre for Human Trafficking Prevention, part of the Belarus Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Abu Dhabi hosted a symposium on protecting victims of human trafficking, organized by the Ministry of Interior, and attended by delegates from various ministries, federal and local departments, civil society organizations, and representatives of the United Nations Development Program.

28L Question: Does the government provide assistance, such as medical aid, shelter, or financial help, to its nationals who are repatriated as victims of trafficking?

28L Answer: There were no reports of UAE citizens becoming trafficking victims.

28M Question: Which international organizations or NGOs, if any, work with trafficking victims? What type of services do they provide? What sort of cooperation do they receive from local authorities?

28M Answer: Victim services are primarily provided by the shelters, which are quasi-governmental entities. The Abu Dhabi shelter is operated under the auspices of the Red Crescent Authority. New

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shelters opening mid-2010 in Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah will have similar governance. The Dubai shelter is operated by the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children. These entities are not by definition NGOs, they are funded by the government and receive strong cooperation from local authorities. Coordination between local authorities and victim services entities improved greatly in 2009 when shelter and police personnel arranged joint victim identification and protection training sessions.

IOM assists the UAEG's anti-trafficking efforts but primarily through practical training rather than direct work with victims. The UAE invited the UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons to visit the country during the reporting period.

PREVENTION

of reftel:

29A Question: Did the government conduct anti-trafficking information or education campaigns during the reporting period? If so, briefly describe the campaign(s), including their objectives and effectiveness. Please provide the number of people reached by such awareness efforts, if available. Do these campaigns target potential trafficking victims and/or the demand for trafficking (e.g. "clients" of prostitutes or beneficiaries of forced labor)? (Note: This can be an especially noteworthy effort where prostitution is legal. End Note.)

29A Answer: The government conducted anti-trafficking information and education campaigns within the UAE and in Embassies and Consulates in labor-sending countries. The Ministry of Interior organized seminars in work places and labor camps. The campaigns are intended to educate workers on their rights in the UAE and where they can get help for themselves or anyone they suspect may be a trafficking victim. Toll-free hotlines are widely publicized and pamphlets on human trafficking are printed in multiple languages. The Ministry of Interior is distributing to labor camps, government offices, NGOs, and media outlets, a pocket book on workers' rights printed in English, Arabic, Tagalog, Persian, Urdu, and Chinese. A planned airport advertising campaign was delayed until 2010.

29B Question: Does the government monitor immigration and emigration patterns for evidence of trafficking?

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29B Answer: Yes, immigration officials are represented on the NCCHT and received training in identifying travel patterns to and from source countries.

29C Question: Is there a mechanism for coordination and communication between various agencies, internal, international, and multilateral on trafficking-related matters, such as a multi-agency working group or a task force?

29C Answer: The National Committee to Combat Human trafficking (NCCHT) is a federal entity with authority to coordinate anti-trafficking programs across all levels of government in all seven emirates. The NCCHT includes representatives from the Ministries of Labor, Justice, Social Affairs, Health, Foreign Affairs, and Federal National Council Affairs, as well as State Security, the Red Crescent Authority and TIP victims' shelters.

29D Question: Does the government have a national plan of action to address trafficking in persons? If the plan was developed during the reporting period, which agencies were involved in developing it? Were NGOs consulted in the process? What steps has the government taken to implement the action plan?

29D Answer: The national action plan was developed by the NCCHT and is constantly under review. The NCCHT has met 19 times since its inception in 2007. During the reporting period, the NCCHT reviewed anti-trafficking proposals from shelter, police, labor, health, immigration, and security officials. Proposed amendments to the UAE trafficking law and action plan included: diversion of funds seized from traffickers to victim rehabilitation; monitoring of international trafficking routes; and legal protection for informers.

29E Question: What measures has the government taken during the reporting period to reduce the demand for commercial sex acts?

29E Answer: The government enforces strict laws of morality in accordance with Islamic principles.

29F Question: What measures has the government taken during the reporting period to reduce the participation in international child sex tourism by nationals of the country?

29F Answer: There are no reliable reports that the UAE is a child sex tourism destination or source.

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PARTNERSHIPS

17. (SBU) Please find below responses to questions in paragraph 30 of reftel:

30A Question: Does the government engage with other governments, civil society, and/or multilateral organizations to focus attention and devote resources to addressing human trafficking? If so, please provide details.

30A Answer: Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan donated \$15 million to fund the creation of the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT).

30B Question: What sort of international assistance does the government provide to other countries to address TIP?

30B Answer: There were no reports that the government provided international assistance to other countries to address TIP.

UAE TIP POC

18. (SBU) Primary point of contact for trafficking issues is Aaron Nuutinen, FS-03. Estimated number of hours spent compiling this report by POC: 40. Estimated number of hours spent by various Embassy Abu Dhabi and Consulate Dubai officers and LES: 20. POC telephone: +971 2 414 2621; fax: +971 2 414 2639; email: nuutinenaa@state.gov.
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